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Identical letters dated 7 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Republic of the Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria regarding the forthcoming signing of the Peace Accord between Eritrea and Ethiopia, scheduled in Algiers on 12 December 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have it issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah **Baali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 7 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Communiqué

The President of the Republic, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, has invited the President of the State of Eritrea, Mr. Isaias Afwerki, and the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Meles Zenawi, to sign a peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea at Algiers on 12 December 2000.

The signing of the peace agreement will take place in a solemn ceremony, to which high-level representatives of the United States of America and the European Union, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and other eminent guests have also been invited.

This major development, an outgrowth of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities signed at Algiers on 18 June 2000, is the result of intense efforts on the part of the President of the Republic under the mandate which the Conference of OAU Heads of State and Government renewed at its thirty-sixth ordinary session held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000.

These efforts, pursued with the active support of the United States of America and in consultation with the European Union, OAU and the United Nations, have culminated in significant advances which led to the elaboration of the text of an agreement acceptable to both parties, after admittedly arduous but nonetheless fruitful discussions, not only in Algiers and Washington but also in Addis Ababa and Asmara.

This outcome, due first and foremost to the availability, cooperation and spirit of compromise demonstrated by these two brother countries, and in particular by President Isaias Afwerki and Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, is also the product of the perfect coordination that has marked the mediation efforts of OAU and its partners.

Algiers, 6 December 2000